

REMARKS

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 10-16 and 18-22 are identical to those submitted in the amendment filed March 23, 2007. The Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due dated June 27, 2007 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 23-34 are patterned after Claims 10-16 and 18-22 with the exception that they contain no feature in Claim 23 to forming "using a wet-lay process". They are supported by the originally filed claims and those submitted in the amendment filed March 23, 2007. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

This RCE is filed in order to have the Examiner consider U.S. Patent 6,572,997 to Iqbal et al. and U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0076863 to Baars et al., which were the subject of a PCT Search Report and Written Opinion in a co-pending, commonly assigned and related International application No. PCT/US 06/39259. An Information Disclosure Statement is filed concurrently herewith.

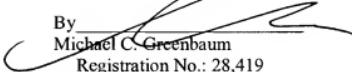
It is respectfully submitted that none of the references previously of record, and in particular Balko et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,339,322) and Butler (U.S. Patent No. 6,752,937), nor U.S. Patent 6,572,997 to Iqbal et al. and U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0076863 to Baars et al disclose or suggest the invention as is currently claimed.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-2185 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 27, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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